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Title: NRDL Occupancy of Shipyard Builds

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U. S. NAVAL RADIOLOGICAL DEFENSE LABORATORY
SAN FRANCISCO 24. CALIFORNIA

IN REPLY REFER
TO FILE:

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14 SEP 1951

From: Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory
To: Chief, Bureau of Ships
Via: Commander, San Francisco Naval Shipyard

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Subj: Occupancy of Shipyard Buildings by USNRDL

Ref: (a) BuShips ltr S99-(0)-(1)-(770) over NY9-1 over ser 770-1619
of Dec 1950 to ComNavShipYd SanFran and CO MRDL SanFran
(b) ComNavShipYd SanFran ltr 140 over S90 over ser 268430 of
4 Apr 1951 to BuShips
(c) BuShips ltr NP/11N19(771) ser 770-1043 to Com SanFranNavShipYd
and CO, USNRDL, of 16 June 1951

1. Reference (c), in reply to reference (b), reiterated the policy previously set forth in reference (a), that if funds requested for construction of the new laboratory (proposed Building 815) are appropriated as requested, the new structure should be assigned to house the entire laboratory facilities (animal shelter excepted). The Laboratory was instructed to plan that all facilities other than the animal shelter will be returned to the Shipyard upon completion of the new laboratory building. Reference (c) directed that Shipyard and Laboratory planning be based on these premises until such time as a Congressional appropriation was made for the construction of a permanent laboratory facility, and stated that when such appropriations are actually made, the situation will be re-evaluated.

2. The time schedule for planning of the proposed new laboratory - Building 815 - has been tentatively established by the District Public Works Officer and the Laboratory as follows:

- a. 1 September 1951 - Approval of preliminary arrangement plans for USNRDL
- b. 15 October 1951 - Completion of scope drawings and design criteria by A&E contractor (L. S. Rosener, Engineers)
- c. 15 April 1952 - Completion of architectural and engineering drawings and bid specifications and advertise for bids
- d. 30 June 1952, at the very latest - Negotiation and award of contract for construction of Building 815.

cd

3. Adherence to the time schedule of the paragraph above has necessitated that the Laboratory plan minor exceptions to the policy as set forth in reference (c). These minor exceptions are summarized as follows:

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a. The hot cell (Building 364), the change house (Building 365), and the Kevatron (Building 510 Annex), will not be duplicated in Building 815. These buildings are virtually unusable by the Shipyard in their present form; the areas occupied by them are small, and all are accessible from the main road. The hot cell building is a permanent structure of reinforced concrete which was planned and built during the period when Building 351 and its Annex were considered adequate as the ultimate Laboratory site. The Kevatron building is a similar construction. To duplicate them in the new building would be uneconomical. Further, the shielding and other special features required to house them in the Laboratory, would be very expensive. Conversations with Shipyard officials indicate the retention of these spaces as Laboratory facilities will not interfere with Shipyard activities in the foreseeable future. If at some future date the requirements of the Shipyard dictate their removal or occupancy, consideration is recommended at that time.

b. The isotope storate vault (Building 529) is not readily accessible from a main road and will not be easily accessible when Buildings 520 and 506 revert back to the Shipyard. This facility will be duplicated in Building 815 but will be considered a deductible item in event estimates for Building 815 are above the appropriation allocation for construction.

c. A 2 MEV Van de Graaff generator is being provided as a part of the FY52 Plant Equipment Program. This large item of equipment is now scheduled for installation on the ground floor of proposed Building 815; however, it is expected to be delivered approximately a full year prior to completion of Building 815. In this event, it is proposed to install it in a separate industrial type building northwest of Building 815, approximately 100 feet distant. An industrial type building would, in general, be much better and much cheaper than a concrete structure such as Building 815. The presence of thick concrete walls as would be required to shield Building 815 from the Van de Graaff generator would interfere with any experiments using the accelerator. Scattering from the concrete walls would disturb absorption and shielding measurements and would be difficult to calibrate for.

d. The present animal breeding and holding facilities in Building 707 will not be duplicated in Building 815; however, all short term animal holding and experimental facilities will be provided for in Building 815. It is proposed that any increase in animal breeding capacity will be accomplished by expansion at the Building 707 location.

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4. Except for the three small buildings specifically referred to in paragraph 3a. above, it is planned that all facilities other than the animal shelter (Building 707) will be returned to the Shipyard upon completion of proposed Building 815. Personnel expansion is similarly based on this objective.

5. It is understood that the plans described in paragraph 3. above are in consonance with the Shipyard Station Development Program. It is requested that both the Shipyard and the Bureau indicate acceptability of the plans described herein in view of the guidance instructions set forth in reference (c).

A. L. BECKER


J. L. BIRD
By direction

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